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September 6, 1991

Dr. H. McAllister
Council for Tobacco Research
USA Inc.
9000 Third Avenue
New York NY, 10022

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Dear Dr. McAllister,

Every two or three years an international conference on Proteolysis with a focus on cellular proteolysis has been organized by scientists around the world. These meetings started in 1973 and have been held in the USA, Germany (East and West), Yugoslavia, and Japan. The last meeting in the USA was in 1984. In October 1990, at the Eight International Conference on Proteolysis, approximately 270 scientists from 25 different countries attended the 5 day conference in Bavaria. That meeting had 80 lectures, over 100 posters, and the key-note speaker Earl Davies who lectured on 'Proteins of Blood Coagulation and their Genes'. The meetings have led to international collaborations, an international newsletter with a mailing list of 1,500 scientists, and an International Committee on Proteolysis (ICOP) that plans future meetings and aims to foster communication of scientists interested in proteolysis and protein turnover. Copies of the last two newsletters are enclosed.

I am currently the President of ICOP, and organizer of the next meeting of this group which will take place the week of 18 October 1992 in Williamsburg Virginia USA. For this meeting, we plan to have sessions on the biochemistry and molecular biology of proteinases and their inhibitors, on cellular aspects of the mechanisms and regulation of intracellular protein breakdown, on regulation of growth and development in tissues and organisms, and on protein degradation in pathological situations. The program is being developed now and a list of topics, organizers of sessions, and proposed speakers is enclosed. The program will consist of lectures, posters, and specialized discussion sessions.

I write to you to ask for financial support for the 1992 International Conference. I know your company is actively engaged in research related to proteolysis and has supported such conferences in the past. We are aware of your commitment to science, education, creative research, and furthering knowledge. We need support to pay for the expenses of international speakers, students, post-doctoral fellows, conference facilities, coffee breaks, publishing an abstract book, and administrative costs. We anticipate participation from universities, industries and research institutes. We are planning for approximately 300 participants. We are asking you for a contribution of $1,000 to $ 5,000. This would be a donation to a tax-exempt non-profit foundation. We will acknowledge support of sponsors in the ICOP newsletter and the program of the conference. We invite you to designate a member of your firm to participate in the meeting, and we will waive the registration fee of $100 for the official representative of a sponsor.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If you are able to contribute, please have the check made out to "The Virginia Tech Foundation, Inc", indicate it is for 'ICOP 1992', and mail it to me. I look forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely,

Judith Bond

Judith Bond
Professor and Head

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